

Having thus described the invention, we claim:

1. An ink container opener, comprising:
a first portion; and,
a second portion connected to said first portion, wherein said first and second portions are approximately perpendicular to each other; said first portion and said second portion each comprising an opening.
2. The ink container opener of claim 1, wherein said opening of said first portion comprises a plurality of ridges extending along at least one side of said opening.
3. The ink container opening of claim 2, wherein said ridges are substantially rectangular in shape and are equally spaced apart from one another.
4. The ink container opener of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of reinforcement members between said first and second portions.
5. The ink container opener of claim 4, wherein said reinforcement members are spaced apart and parallel to one another.
6. The ink container opener of claim 5, wherein said reinforcement members are integral with said first portion and said second portion.
7. The ink container opener of claim 6, wherein said reinforcement members are substantially triangular in shape.
8. The ink container opener of claim 4, wherein said reinforcement members are of unitary construction with said first and second portions.
9. The ink container opener of claim 1, wherein said openings are each substantially rectangular in shape.
10. The ink container opener of claim 1, wherein said second portion is longer than said first portion along a longitudinal axis of said first and second portions.

11. The ink container opener of claim 1, wherein said first portion and said second portion are of unitary construction.

12. The ink container opener of claim 1, wherein said opener is substantially L-shaped.

13. An ink container opener comprising:
a container holder member adapted to hold a portion of an ink container;
a support member adapted to be placed on a work surface, wherein said holder member and support member each includes an opening for receiving and holding said portion of an ink container; and
said holder member and said support member are formed of a unitary construction and are approximately perpendicular to one another.

14. The ink container opener of claim 13, wherein said opening of said holder member comprises a plurality of teeth along an inner edge thereof.

15. The ink container opener of claim 13, wherein said ink container opener further comprises a plurality of reinforcement members interconnecting said holder member and said support member.

16. The ink container opener of claim 13, wherein said support member comprises a support surface for supporting said opener when force is applied to said holder member.

17. The ink container opener of claim 13, wherein said opening of said holder member comprises a plurality of ridges formed on internal surfaces thereof.

18. A method of opening an ink container of the type having first and second connected container portions, said method using a one-piece ink container opener having a first and second container holder member; and each of said holder members having an opening for receiving a first portion of said ink container, said method comprising:

supporting said first portion of said container within one of said openings of said first and second holder members;

placing the other of said holder members on a work surface;
applying lateral force to the second portion of the container until said container first portion is disconnected from said container second portion.

19. An opener for removing a cap from an ink container body, comprising:
a first portion; and
a second portion connected to said first portion and extending at an angle thereto, said first and second portions each including an opening for receiving a container cap and spacing the container body from the other of said first and second portions.
20. The opener of claim 19, wherein each of said openings is substantially rectangular in shape.
21. The opener of claim 19, wherein at least one of said openings includes ridges substantially rectangular in shape and equally spaced apart from one another.
22. The opener of claim 19, wherein at least one of said openings has a plurality of linear edges.
23. The opener of claim 19, further including a plurality of reinforcement members between said first and second portions.
24. The opener of claim 19, wherein said first portion and said second portion are perpendicular to one another.
25. The opener of claim 19, wherein said openings of first portion and said second portion are of different sizes.